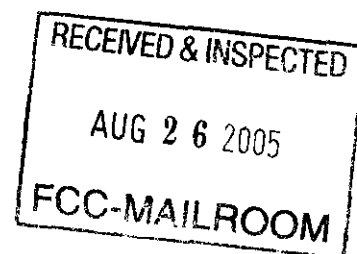


Lynn F. Laseman
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(815)- 756-5441
8/19/05



Dear Sirs,

I would like to comment on the proposed rule changes for the Amateur Radio Service. The one change that I totally disagree with is the elimination of code for all license classes. I would highly recommend retaining CW at 5 words per minute for the Extra license only. My feeling is that 5 wpm is something that anyone can learn and pass. I'm NOT concerned about the so called "dumbing-down" of our tests. I'm not concerned about our great hobby being taken over by CB madmen. I'm also not concerned about what all the rest of the world does with CW.

I am very concerned about losing one of the last great vestiges of American creativity. CW is ours, we did it! The whole world used it. Yes, I know that it's not applicable to any current and modern form of lifesaving communications, but it does still work and would still work when all else fails. By keeping our great American tradition, all of our highest class licensees would be exposed to their tradition. They would be forever joined to our very tradition essence. And with CW being so much fun, we would be increasing their enjoyment of our great American heritage.

Yes, I know I'm a traditionalist, but there just has to be a place where tradition meets "modern, progressive, thinking", and the two coexist. The rest of the world can easily drop CW because it's not their tradition. It IS our tradition. By keeping very elementary CW requirements for our highest license class we would NOT be depriving anyone of SSB privileges on the HF bands. A General class license has many HF options. With this in mind, I ask you to please not discard our great tradition.

Sincerely,

Lynn F. Laseman
AA9NA

